

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 EA-10 FRB-03 INR-10 NEA-10 NSAE-00
USIA-06 OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01
AGRE-00 OMB-01 SS-15 STR-07 DOE-11 SOE-02 OIC-02
NSC-05 L-03 /135 W
-----002346 160619Z /20

R 151602Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5487
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 2. A. CORRECTED)

USEEC

PARIS ALSO FOR OECD

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: EGEN, UN, EEC
SUBJECT: EC PREPARATIONS FOR MAY MEETING OF UN OVERVIEW
COMMITTEE

REF: (A) STATE 60178 (B) BRUSSELS 4823
(C) LONDON 60178 (NOTAL)

1. COMMISSION OFFICIAL (ODILE QUINTIN, ASSISTANT ON
NORTH/SOUTH ISSUES TO DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR EXTER-
NAL AFFAIRS CASPARI) ON MARCH 14 PASSED ON COMMISSION'S
COMMENTS ON THE TWO US PAPERS ON AGENDA ITEMS 1 AND 2 FOR
THE MAY MEETING OF THE UN OVERVIEW COMMITTEE (PARAS 5 AND
6, REF A). SHE EXPRESSED THE COMMISSION'S APPRECIATION
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FOR THE TWO PAPERS. SHE FELT SUCH EXCHANGES ARE USEFUL
IN HELPING TO ASSURE THAT GROUP-B COUNTRIES AT AN EARLY
STAGE OF THEIR PREPARATIONS FOR THE MAY MEETING DO NOT
MAKE INCOMPATIBLE STATEMENTS AND SEEK TO HARMONIZE THEIR
APPROACHES AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

AGENDA ITEM 1, GENERAL ECONOMIC GROWTH AND RELATIONS:

2. QUINTIN SAID THE COMMISSION BELIEVES THAT THE US PROPOSED OUTLINE IS AN EXCELLENT BUT VERY DETAILED AND SOMEWHAT POLITICIZED REVIEW WHICH SHOULD MAKE A VERY USEFUL CONTRIBUTION AS SERIOUS BACKGROUND FOR DISCUSSIONS DURING THE MAY MEETING. THE COMMISSION FAVORS A SOMEWHAT SHORTER, SIMPLER AND MORE GENERAL APPROACH AND HAS PREPARED AN OUTLINE OF SUCH A PAPER TO BE CONSIDERED BY COREPER MARCH 16. SHE SAID THAT THIS PAPER DRAWS ON THE UK SUGGESTIONS (REF C) AND TAKES THE US PAPER INTO CONSIDERATION. SHE BELIEVES THERE IS NO INCONSISTENCY BETWEEN THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL AND THE US PAPER. THE COMMISSION DRAFT OUTLINE, WHICH IS BEING TRANSMITTED BY SEPTEL, IS BROKEN DOWN INTO THE FOLLOWING THREE MAIN SECTIONS AND HAS AN INTRODUCTION AND CONCLUSION.

A. SHORT-TERM ECONOMIC SITUATION (A DESCRIPTION OF THE ECONOMIC SITUATION IN GENERAL AND IN DIFFERENT GROUPS OF COUNTRIES AND CURRENT PROBLEMS, INCLUDING ENERGY).
B. STRUCTURAL PROBLEMS (REVIEW OF LONG-TERM STRUCTURAL PROBLEMS HAMPERING ECONOMIC GROWTH AND ECONOMIC EXCHANGES, WITH MAJOR EMPHASIS ON THE ROLE OF INVESTMENT).
C. POLICIES TO BE FOLLOWED (ESSENTIALLY AN EXAMINATION OF POLICIES TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS TO OVERCOME IMMEDIATE AND LONG-TERM STRUCTURAL PROBLEMS TO ASSURE MORE RAPID ECONOMIC GROWTH
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AND GREATER COOPERATION BETWEEN THE DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING WORLD, INCLUDING ENERGY COOPERATION.)

3. QUINTIN NOTED THAT THE ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMISSION'S PAPER TRIES TO PULL ALL POSSIBLE REMEDIAL POLICIES AND ACTIONS INTO ONE SECTION RATHER THAN LEAVING THEM SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THE PAPER. THE COMMISSION ALSO PLANS TO UNDERLINE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SOCIALIST STATES AND THE NEED FOR THEM TO DO MORE TO HELP THE LDC'S. COREPER'S COMMENTS AND POSSIBLE SUGGESTIONS REGARDING THE DRAFT OUTLINE ARE TO BE USED BY THE COMMISSION AND THE NORTH/SOUTH WORKING GROUP IN ARRIVING AT A FINAL PAPER TO BE PREPARED BY THE END OF MARCH.

AGENDA ITEM 2, TRANSFER OF RESOURCES:

4. QUINTIN SAID THE COMMISSION STILL PREFERS THAT NEITHER THE US, THE EC, NOR OTHER GROUP-B COUNTRIES SUBMIT ANY SUB-ITEMS UNDER THIS TOPIC SINCE IT MIGHT ENCOURAGE THE G-77 TO PREPARE A DETAILED LIST OF SPECIFIC SUBJECTS WHICH COULD CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR GROUP-B COUNTRIES. HOWEVER, SHE CONCEDED THAT IT MIGHT BE DESIRABLE TO PRESENT SOME ALTERNATE TOPICS IN THE EVENT THE G-77 TAKES THE INITIATIVE AND SUBMITS AN UNACCEPTABLE LIST. THE COMMISSION IS ALSO UNDER SOME PRESSURE BY THE UK (REF C) AND

THE NETHERLANDS TO SUGGEST ITEMS FOR SUBMISSION.

5. QUINTIN SAID THE COMMISSION FELT THE FOUR TOPICS SUGGESTED BY THE US WAS A VALID APPROACH TO THE SUBJECT AND GENERALLY PREFERRABLE TO THAT SUGGESTED BY THE UK (REF C). SHE SAID THE COMMISSION HAD SOME RESERVATIONS ON THE STRESS IN ITEM D ON ASSISTANCE TO MEET BASIC HUMAN NEEDS TO THE NEGLECT OF OTHER ASSISTANCE OBJECTIVES.

6. QUINTIN SAID THE FOUR US ISSUES WERE VERY CLOSE TO THE THREE THE COMMISSION WILL PROPOSE IF THE MARCH 16 COREPER MEETING DECIDES THE EC AS A WHOLE SHOULD SUBMIT TOPICS TO THE UN SECRETARIAT. THESE TOPICS ARE BASICALLY THE CHAPTER HEADINGS OF A DRAFT IN PREPARATION IN THE COMMISSION OF THE FORMAL EC PRESENTATION ON THE TRANSFER OF RESOURCES AGENDA ITEM AT THE MAY MEETING. SHE DESCRIBED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AGRE-00 OMB-01 SS-15 STR-07 DOE-11 SOE-02 OIC-02
NSC-05 L-03 /135 W

-----002331 160614Z /14/46

R 151602Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5488

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (SPECIAL HANDLING LINE ADDED)

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THE GENERAL SUBSTANCE OF THESE TOPICS AS FOLLOWS:

(A) TRANSFER OF RESOURCES AND GENERAL ECONOMIC INTER-DEPENDENCE AND GROWTH (THIS WOULD INCLUDE THE US SUGGESTED ITEM A AND A LARGE PART OF B IN PARAGRAPH 6, REF A);

(B) EXAMINATION OF SECTORAL PROBLEMS AND PRIORITIES FOR TRANSFER OF RESOURCES (THIS WOULD BE ESSENTIALLY THE SAME AS ITEM D SUGGESTED BY THE US AND ALSO PART OF B);

(C) EC COMMITMENTS AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS (SIMILAR TO US ITEM C BUT DEALING ONLY WITH THE VOLUME AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF OFFICIAL ASSISTANCE BY THE EC AND THE MEMBER STATES).

7. ACTION REQUESTED: IF THE DEPARTMENT HAS ANY COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS ON THE PROPOSED EC PAPERS FOR THE TWO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE MAY MEETING OF THE UN OVERVIEW COMMITTEE, THEY SHOULD BE TRANSMITTED TO THE MISSION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO ASSURE THAT THEY ARE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BEFORE THE EC PAPERS REACH FINAL FORM. MORRIS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC COOPERATION, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, PLANNING MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BRUSSE05116
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780138-0715, D780115-0552
Format: TEL
From: BRUSSELS USEEC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780368/aaaacewe.tel
Line Count: 195
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b9f66dc7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 60178, 78 BRUSSELS 4823, 78 LONDON 60178
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3329082
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC PREPARATIONS FOR MAY MEETING OF UN OVERVIEW COMMITTEE
TAGS: EGEN, UN, EEC
To: STATE USOECD
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b9f66dc7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014